

# The Daily Capital Journal

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## AMICABLE ADJUSTMENT SEEMS HARDLY POSSIBLE

### America Must Waive Demand for Disavowal of Lusitania Sinking, Or Submit To Arbitration by The Hague Tribunal, So Berlin Correspondent Asserts—German People Oppose Concessions—Ambassador Von Bernstorff Surprised At New Turn Negotiations Have Taken—State Officials Not Optimistic

By Carl W. Ackerman  
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)

Berlin, Feb. 4.—Unless America waives her demand for disavowal of the Lusitania torpedoing, or agrees to submit the case to The Hague for arbitration, an amicable adjustment thereof is impossible, in the unanimous view today of officials and newspapers.

The Lokai Anzeiger, one of the most influential papers here, declared that Germany has done her utmost to prove her friendship for the United States and that she cannot admit that the sinking of the big liner was a violation of international law.

Though a semi-official announcement a few days since said that instructions had been forwarded to Ambassador Von Bernstorff at Washington which gave reasonable assurance for a positive understanding, the general feeling here has veered from that viewpoint since. The consensus of opinion is that Germany has gone as far as she can in trying to settle the situation.

Officials, however, hope that Colonel House, President Wilson's envoy, may be able to present the German attitude as correctly as possible so that an amicable settlement may be reached.

Colonel House will take back to President Wilson some mild criticisms of the administration on the ground that it makes its diplomatic moves with too much noise, it is reported here. American officials have told the colonel that probably more might be accomplished in dealings with the central empires if greater secrecy were used. For instance, it was pointed out that Austrian officials have been leary of discussing some affairs with Ambassador Penfield inasmuch as press reports of instructions to him in the past have been printed in Vienna before these orders reached Penfield.

Washington, Feb. 4.—Ambassador Von Bernstorff's instructions from Berlin in the Lusitania case are understood to have been that he should make it clear to the United States that Germany will not specifically admit the Lusitania torpedoing was illegal, as American demands.

His instructions were presented this afternoon to Secretary of State Lansing. If their 11 minute conference was intended to stave off a rupture of relations, it was futile.

Afterward, a break in diplomatic relations between the two nations was freely predicted. The only loophole suggested was that the Berlin foreign office had found a way to concede the point without appearing to do so, because of the construction of German legal language.

One of the difficulties in the way of disavowing the incident lies in the lack of an exact German equivalent for the word "disavow."

Both Ambassador Bernstorff and Secretary Lansing said after their brief conference that the result was unchanged. Neither would discuss the meeting in detail, but neither concealed the fact that it had not succeeded in

changing the difficult status of the relations between the two nations. Another conference is likely after President Wilson has considered a report from his personal envoy, Colonel House, and the instructions given Bernstorff.

The latest communication from Berlin was the subject of this disturbed feeling. It was understood Secretary of State Lansing had sent to President Wilson the report of Ambassador Gerard regarding the official attitude at Berlin.

Moreover, dispatches from United Press Correspondent Ackerman at Berlin today served to confirm official views that at least a large part of the German people are opposed to granting demanded concessions.

The next two days may determine the fate of German-American relations. Coincident with the president's return this afternoon, Ambassador Von Bernstorff expected to receive his latest instructions from Berlin regarding the case and he hoped to be able to present them to Secretary of State Lansing either late this afternoon or tomorrow morning.

**Bernstorff Surprised.**  
Ambassador Von Bernstorff did not conceal his surprise and concern when shown the Ackerman message this forenoon, but he withheld comment. Other embassy authorities said they could not understand how Foreign Secretary Von Jagow had permitted such definite views to get out, but they were silent when it was suggested that the censorship had been lifted as soon as it was known that either the report of Colonel House or Ambassador Gerard had reached the president.

**Confers With Lansing.**  
Washington, Feb. 4.—Ambassador Von Bernstorff arrived at Secretary of State Lansing's office at 3:55 p. m. with the memorandum from Berlin regarding the Lusitania negotiations and was immediately admitted.

Leaving at 4:06 the ambassador would not discuss the situation.

**GUARDS STRENGTHENED.**  
Washington, Feb. 4.—Fear that cracks inspired to incendiarism by the destruction of the Ottawa parliament buildings might attempt to wreck the capitol here, caused the police to strengthen the capitol guard force.

## FAMOUS OLD GENERAL PUTNIK CARRIED IN BOX DURING THE GREAT SERBIAN RETREAT THROUGH ALBANIAN ALPS



Retreating Serbians in Albania carrying General Putnik in box.

This is one of the most tragic photos of the war. Marshal Putnik, the aged Serbian commander-in-chief who distinguished himself in many Serbian campaigns and who was the directing genius of Serbia's determined fight against Austria, was forced to drink the bitter dregs of defeat. Enfeebled by age and the strain of battle against superior Teuton odds, the old commander was unable either to mount a horse or walk. An improvised rickshaw was secured and the old general retreated with his army through the Albanian Alps on the shoulders of his faithful followers.

## PRESIDENT'S PLAN WILL BE ADOPTED EARLY IN MARCH

### This Outcome of Campaign Is Freely Predicted By Political Observers

Aboard President Wilson's Special Train En Route to Washington, Feb. 4.—President Wilson's preparedness program will be adopted by congress before the end of March, those close to him predicted freely today. Whether this forecast was based on the enthusiasm which greeted his speeches throughout the middle west or was in the light of international developments, could not be learned.

The fundamental theme of his program stands as maintenance of personal and business rights of America.

The president was due in Washington early this afternoon and it was understood he will soon begin plans for a southern trip. While he holds that the middle western trip "far exceeded the most optimistic expectation," his friends believe that he should go farther west and through the south to arouse those portions of the country for preparedness.

The enthusiasm with which the president has been greeted was equalled by the welcome his wife received. She has kept a watchful eye on him, in addition to appearing with him at his speeches, but despite her attention he is suffering from a slight cold.

**President Reaches Home.**  
Washington, Feb. 4.—President Wilson returned here at 1:30 o'clock this afternoon from his middle western preparedness trip.

The president did not appear weary, and his wife was fresh and cheerful. "It has been a most interesting trip," said the president as he shook hands with all members of the party.

**Former Claim Agent Found Guilty of Forgery**  
Olympia, Wash., Feb. 4.—John E. Gillies, former claim agent of the state industrial insurance department, was found guilty at 10:30 o'clock this morning of forgery in the first degree by a jury which deliberated since 8:15 o'clock last night.

This is the first of a series of charges filed against Gillies and two alleged confederates, Frank W. Stone and J. W. Kearns. It is claimed that between them the state was looted to an amount of \$15,000 to \$25,000.

Gillies announced he would appeal to the supreme court.

## OTTAWA PARLIAMENT BUILDING DESTROYED WITH LOSS OF LIFE

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**DISASTROUS FIRES OF THE PAST 24 HOURS**  
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Fire destroyed the Gothic parliament buildings at Ottawa, with known loss of six lives and property damage in the millions.  
\* Six dead and one missing in fire that wrecked the palatial home of Mrs. Casimir Tag at New York.  
\* Five perished in a fire at the Overbrook hotel, Atlantic City.  
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Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 4.—The giant Gothic parliament buildings here stand today a gaunt smoking ruin, while six persons are known to have lost their lives, as the result of a fire that swept through the structure during the night.

Shortly before 3 a. m. the fire had been controlled, though flames still dimly flickered through the senate side. The great library appeared likely to be safe.

The dead: Messames Bray and Morin, guests of the wife of Speaker Severyn, cut off in apartments of the speaker's suite. Alph Des Jardins, a dominion policeman.

Robert Fanning, a waiter. Two other men buried when a section of wall collapsed. Included in the list of injured were several officials.

The origin of the conflagration is a mystery, though officials who undertook an investigation immediately suspected incendiarism, possibly German. However, as policemen guarded both floors of the Commons reading room where the fire began, and other policemen were inside, it would have been particularly difficult for anyone to start the fire undetected.

At the same time there were stories of explosions at the outset, giving perhaps tangible support to a bomb theory.

**Damage Is \$4,000,000.**  
The fire, which caused damage estimated at from \$4,000,000 to \$5,000,000 began in the reading room about 9:00 o'clock last night. The flames were soon shooting in spirals through the Gothic towers, and spreading sparks some distance beyond. The red light against the sky could be seen for miles.

Great blankets of fire rolled rapidly through the structure. At midnight, the tower chimneys boomed above the roar of the flames but an hour and a half later the tower crumbled with a crash audible for blocks. Long before this, both the senate and commons chambers had been wiped out.

Volunteer fire brigades and the full city department were unable to make an impression on the fire, so aid was hurried from Montreal by special train.

Colonel John Currie, who distinguished himself in the battle of St. Julien proved himself a hero when, rushing from the flaming building, he organized parliament members, police and telegraph operators into a volunteer squad. Heedless of the smoke and the fire, the colonel dashed into the building at the head of this force, and led the work of fighting the fire with emergency hose.

The first word of the fire came just before 9 o'clock as a handful of legislators were debating a fisheries measure. Members scrambled for safety, while gallery spectators, in a panic, made for the exits.

**Women Trapped By Fire.**  
The fire trapped Mme. Severyn, the speaker's wife, in her suite with her two children and three guests. Mme. Bray and Mme. Morin were found unconscious; physicians tried vainly to resuscitate them.

Mme. Severyn calmly cared for her children first. Standing in the window outlined darkly against the flames, she screamed at firemen below, who hastened to spread life nets. Then she hurried the children safely to the net, and deliberately plunged herself out of the window. Mme. Dussault, the third

## RECORD STORM MAY CONTINUE FOR DAYS WEATHERMAN SAYS

### Snow Still Falling In Many Parts of Northwest Seattle Advice Says

Portland, Or., Feb. 4.—The worst of the storm may be yet to come, said the weatherman today in spite of the fact that the prolonged snowstorm and sleet have exceeded all records for duration and damage.

With the exception of wireless, Portland yesterday was practically shut off from communication with the outside world. Thousands of feet of "duplex" insulated wire have been rushed to Portland to lay along the ground, bridging huge gaps where telephone and telegraph lines have been torn out.

Snow fell continuously last night. It had ceased this morning, but more is predicted today and the cold continues. The sleet and thaw, which were responsible for most of the damage in Portland, have gone.

Fifty per cent of the street car lines were able to operate today, officials announced. Several thousand people still are stranded downtown. Automobiles cannot negotiate the huge snow drifts and scores of them have been abandoned in the streets.

After business men held an indignation meeting yesterday, Mayor Alben issued a call for one thousand men to shovel snow off the principal business streets. He got four thousand.

Schools will be closed until Monday, it was announced today.

Stores opened late and closed early, practically no business being transacted. Theatres and hotels did a rushing business.

Trains reached Portland slowly today after rotary plows had cleared the tracks.

Damage to wires, buildings and trees as a result of the storm is estimated at \$200,000.

**Snow Storm Continues.**  
Seattle, Wash., Feb. 4.—Snow fell steadily last night and continues to fall today everywhere in this state with the exception of the immediate vicinity of Seattle.

Idaho and British Columbia are in the grip of the storm and the weather indications are that the worst of the blizzard is yet to come.

There is no indication of warmer weather for some time.

All trains stalled by the snow storm in the mountains were reported saved by local railway headquarters here today.

Rotary snow plows have been working 24 hours a day in an effort to clear the way into Seattle. Northern Pacific trains are expected to get into the city late today and Great Northern westbound trains will be pulled through by midnight, it is believed.

Twelve hundred shovelers have augmented the rotary plows in clearing the Northern Pacific tracks over the mountains.

Snow stopped falling in the mountains at 4:30 o'clock Thursday morning.

Milwaukee rotaries are battling up the summit from Garcia. A 400 foot snow slide took place there yesterday afternoon. One rotary was wrecked.

**Business Is Hampered.**  
Tacoma, Wash., Feb. 4.—Business was still badly hampered and traffic conditions were little improved today, with every indication of a resumption of the snow storms that have prevailed almost without cessation here for many days.

Although large crews of men toiled all night and snow plows were sent out at frequent intervals, few street cars operated early today and thousands of persons walked to their work.

The first eastern mail to reach since Tuesday is expected to arrive late today, being routed over North Bank road via Portland. No trains have come in over the direct lines across the Cascades.

Deliveries of fuel and provisions are being made with great difficulty. Schools are open today but the attendance is very light.

**Soldiers Assist In Work.**  
Victoria, B. C., Feb. 4.—Soldiers are leading the work in the attempt to dig the city out of the snow. The snow is piled more than 10 feet deep in many places.

The damage here has been slight, the most serious being the collapse of the roof of the mess house at the Wilsons barracks. No one was injured.

**Coliseum Caves In.**  
Bremerton, Wash., Feb. 4.—The roof of the coliseum, where Pacific reserve fleet sailors have staged dances for the last three years, caved in under the heavy snow yesterday afternoon. The loss was \$3,000. No one was injured.

**Workmen Are Injured.**  
Walla Walla, Wash., Feb. 4.—With possibly one exception, all seven workmen injured in a snow slide on the O. W. R. & N. near Riparia will recover, the physicians at the hospital here report. The avalanche buried 30

## AUSTRIAN RAIDS INDICATE GREAT AERIAL ACTIVITY

### Vienna Reports That Albanian Cities Are Attacked From Air

## RUSSIAN AND AUSTRIAN AIRSHIPS FIGHT BATTLES

### London Claims Germany Has Lost Twenty-One Zeppelins To Date

Vienna, Feb. 4.—Raids on Avlona and Durazzo, Albania, were reported in today's official statement which detailed the greatest Austrian aerial activity since the war started.

"Five Austrian aeroplanes on January 25 attacked Durazzo said the statement, and then two attacked on Wednesday and three on Thursday. These shelled the camps with marked success."

"Three aeroplanes shelled the Italian encampment at Avlona Wednesday. The motor of one was struck and it was forced to head out toward the sea. The commander of another dropped down beside the machine and rescued the aviators."

Other raids on the Galician front were detailed.

In these, Russian and Austrian air squadrons fought battles high in the skies.

"Russian infantry raids northeast of Boyon failed," the statement continued. "Lively artillery action occurred on the Italian front."

"Austrian vanguards reached districts west of Krnova, (20 miles from Durazzo)." **Twenty-One Zeppelins Taken.**

London, Feb. 4.—Twenty-one Zeppelins and eight other German dirigibles have been destroyed or lost since the start of the war, according to estimates today by experts in commenting on the reported disaster to a Zeppelin in the North sea.

The report that one was seen in a sinking condition there, is believed to be true, though Berlin officials admitted that the Monday night raiders returned safely.

The Mail approved the action of the trawler that found the airship in not taking off the crew, inasmuch as these might have outnumbered the sailors.

"The German has proved," said the paper, "that nobody jays trust him."

**Submarine Changes Flags.**  
London, Feb. 4.—Submarines operating in the Mediterranean are believed to be shielding their identity by using both German and Austrian flags. When attacking British vessels, they apparently use the German flag, but when meeting Italian ships, they fly the Austrian emblem, inasmuch as Germany is not at war with Italy.

The report of the captain on the 5800 ton British liner Commodore today declared that a submarine sank his ship Wednesday in the Mediterranean after notifying the German flag. He said, however, she carried a second flag, undoubtedly the Austrian and flew the German flag only after ascertaining the nationality of the Commodore.

**German On Greek Border.**  
London, Feb. 4.—Two German regiments, the first to appear on the Greek border, have arrived north of Lake Doiran, according to Salonika dispatches today and have replaced Bulgarian troops there.

Three Turkish regiments and four squadrons of cavalry have arrived at Gumuldjina.

**Prussian Losses Heavy.**  
London, Feb. 4.—Prussian losses in dead, wounded and missing men have reached the enormous total of 2,337,000, according to Copenhagen reports to the Mail today. These said that over 35,000 casualties were recorded during the past month.

**Sweeney Gets Leave.**  
London, Feb. 4.—Lieutenant Charles Sweeney, a Californian, wounded in foreign legion's participation in the French drive during September in the Champagne, has been granted leave of absence to visit America, said Paris advices today.

**Fear Swede Invasion.**  
Copenhagen, Feb. 4.—Petrograd reports today admitted strong concentration of Slavs in northwestern Russia, but denied that this move was due to a belief that Sweden is planning an invasion via Finland.

men, but after three hours work the rescuers succeeded in digging them out.

**St. Mary's Church Falls.**  
Seattle, Wash., Feb. 4.—Weighted down by its heavy load of snow at the tower and roof of the old St. Mary church on Lane street, between Twelfth and 21st avenues, caved in late yesterday afternoon. No one was injured. The damage was estimated at \$6,000. The church was built in 1901.



A disastrous fire swept the home of Rev. Wiley Tanager last night, caused by the faulty insulation of a celluloid collar. Don't a feller feel good after he decides his overcoat 'll last another winter!

## THE WEATHER

Oregon: To night and Saturday rain south west, rain or snow northwest and snow east portion; not so cold north portion; winds mostly easterly.

